



KENYA SAFARI SPECTACULAR

Sep 2, 2011 to Sep 30, 2011

Terry Stevenson

Our Kenya September 2011 tour was rather unusual in that we had exceptional variation in what would normally be expected of the rains. Samburu (in the north) was typically dry, but most of the rest of the country including Mt. Kenya, Baringo, Kakamega, and the Lake Victoria basin were exceptionally wet. By contrast, the coastal forests were probably the driest we've seen in 25 years of annual visits there. So how did this affect the birds and mammals we'd travelled so far to see?

Without doubt rain is good, as everything comes into breeding plumage at that time -- the glorious sunbirds, weavers, whydahs, and widowbirds all looking their very best. There's less dust and clear morning skies and lush green scenery, but on the down side you may miss the occasional afternoon birding at places like Kakamega Forest. On the whole, however, rain is a good thing, and I'd say we did very well on this 'out-of-season' tour.

For visitors new to the African continent, the first Ostrich in Nairobi National Park is always a thrill and, though perhaps not so stately, the Marabou Storks are, too. Then there were our first mousebirds, colorful Lilac-breasted Rollers, an African Paradise-Flycatcher right at the entrance gate, and of course our first mammals -- Lion, African Buffalo, Giraffe, and Burchell's Zebra, to mention just a few.

We then headed north, visiting the low dry-bush country of Samburuland, where we found our first Vulturine Guinea fowl, Bateleur, the enormous Verreaux's Eagle-Owl, bustards, coursers, sandgrouse, and other ground-dwelling birds. White-bellied Go-away-birds called from the treetops, localized Somali Bee-eaters perched on the low bushes, and a whole mix of hornbills, barbets, bushshrikes, crombecs, eremomelas, starlings, and sunbirds brought new sightings at almost every turn. A full-bellied Cheetah, elephants on the track, the rare Grevy's Zebra, and the graceful Gerenuk were just a few of the mammals we all enjoyed here.

Backtracking to the central highlands, we then took a 4X4 vehicle to 10,000 feet on Mt. Kenya, giving us excellent views of the endemic Jackson's Francolin, Hartlaub's Turaco, the secretive Abyssinian Ground-Thrush, and dazzling Tacazze Sunbird -- and a huge male Leopard was the pre-breakfast highlight at Mountain Lodge.

Heading west we continued to the Great Rift Valley and famous Lake Baringo, where over 500 species of birds have been recorded. Of course you don't see anything like that number in just two days, but highlights varied from Goliath Heron and Black Cranes along the shore to Three-banded Courser in the low ground cover, four species of owls, Jackson's Hornbill, Somali Tit, the localized Brown-tailed Chat, beautiful Beautiful Sunbirds, and the stunning Orange Bishop.

The next week of our tour took us through the western highlands to the remote Kongelai Escarpment and the Lake Victoria basin. Such varied altitudes and habitats make for constant encounters with new birds, and just a few of the highlights here were White-crested Turaco, Double-toothed Barbet, and White Helmetshrike along the escarpment,

Gray Crowned-Crane in the farmlands, Mountain Illadopsis and Gray-winged Robin-Chat in a remnant forest patch, and almost 45 species found nowhere else in Kenya but at the wonderful Kakamega Forest -- here Great Blue Turaco, Blue-headed Bee-eater, the massive Black-and-white-casqued Hornbill, Yellow-billed Barbet, African Broadbill, Jameson's and Yellow-bellied wattle-eyes, Luehder's Bushshrike, Western Black-headed Oriole, 12 species of greenbuls, Black-faced Rufous Warbler, Turner's Eremomela, Blue-shouldered Robin-Chat, and Red-headed Bluebill were just a few of the wonderful birds we saw.

Returning to the Rift Valley our next stop was Lake Nakuru, where the numbers of Lesser Flamingos were only a fraction of what they could be -- but still a flock of about 8000 seemed impressive enough to most of us. Thousands of Great White Pelicans, our first Spotted Hyena, a Black Rhino, the rare Rothschild's Giraffe, and a couple of rather cute Bat-eared Foxes were other memorable encounters we had here.

Heading back to Nairobi, we stopped at the rapidly disappearing habitat for Sharpe's Longclaw (a Kenya endemic) and were rewarded with fabulous views, and then it was a flight to Masai Mara and two days driving the plains in an open-sided vehicle. It's hard to recall what folks liked best -- was it the rare sighting of mating Leopards, the Cheetah with 3 babies, any of the 20 Lions we saw, or perhaps just the mixed groups of buffalo, zebra, warthogs, antelopes, and gazelles feeding across the endless plains? Schalow's Turaco was high on everyone's bird list, but so were Secretarybird, Southern Ground-Hornbill, and the striking Rosy-throated Longclaw.

After a return flight to Nairobi we began the last week of our tour by driving south-east through Tsavo National Park and on to the Taita Hills. Here, we had a truly wonderful morning, with everyone getting great views of Taita Thrush, Taita Apalis, and Taita White-eye before we drove on to the coast for a final four-night stay. Being based at the very pleasant Hemingways Resort gave us time to make repeated visits to the Sokoke Forest -- for Fasciated Snake-Eagle, Fischer's Turaco, Sokoke Scops-Owl, Mangrove Kingfisher, Green Barbet, Green Tinkerbird, Short-tailed Batis, Chestnut-fronted Helmetshrike, Four-colored Bushshrike, Tiny Greenbul, and Plain-backed and Amani sunbirds. While at the Sabaki River we added Sooty Gull and both Greater and Lesser Crested terns, and at Mida Creek a host of shorebirds, the range restricted White-cheeked Tern, and striking Crab-plovers. What a trip!

--Terry

We have more information about this itinerary and future departures on our web page for [Kenya Safari Spectacular](#).

KEYS FOR THIS LIST

One of the following keys may be shown in brackets for individual species as appropriate: * = heard only, I = introduced, E = endemic, N = nesting, a = austral migrant, b = boreal migrant

BIRDS

Struthionidae (Ostrich)

OSTRICH (COMMON) (*Struthio camelus massaicus*) – Seven in Nairobi NP, 6 at Lake Baringo, and about 8 in Masai Mara; males of this form have the distinctive pink neck and legs.

OSTRICH (SOMALI) (*Struthio camelus molybdophanes*) – Great looks at these striking blue-necked birds in Samburu (7) and Tsavo East (8).

Anatidae (Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl)

WHITE-FACED WHISTLING-DUCK (*Dendrocygna viduata*) – About 100 were on a seasonal pond between Nakuru and Lake Baringo.

FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) – Three in flight at Lake Victoria.

COMB DUCK (*Sarkidiornis melanotos*) – Four in flight along the shore at Lake Baringo.

EGYPTIAN GOOSE (*Alopochen aegyptiaca*) – Common and widespread on wetlands throughout the tour.

SPUR-WINGED GOOSE (*Plectropterus gambensis*) – Good looks at 6 in flight in Masai Mara.

AFRICAN BLACK DUCK (*Anas sparsa*) – Some of the group saw 2 at night at Mountain Lodge, and then we all saw 2 in flight along the Naro Moru River.

YELLOW-BILLED DUCK (*Anas undulata*) – One at Keringet, 2 at Saiwa Swamp, and 3 at Limuru Pond.

RED-BILLED DUCK (*Anas erythrorhyncha*) – Ten at Lake Nakuru, 1 at Naivasha, and 2 at Limuru Pond.

CAPE TEAL (*Anas capensis*) – About 20 at Lake Nakuru; this species prefers alkaline waters.

Numididae (Guineafowl)

HELMETED GUINEAFOWL (*Numida meleagris*) – Common in bush country and open woodland; in all we saw about 475.

VULTURINE GUINEAFOWL (*Acryllium vulturinum*) – Fabulous looks at about 60 in Samburu.

Phasianidae (Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies)

CRESTED FRANCOLIN (*Francolinus sephaena*) – Twenty at Samburu, and about a dozen in the Tsavo area.

HILDEBRANDT'S FRANCOLIN (*Francolinus hildebrandti*) – A single male walked right across the road next to our vehicle at Hell's Gate Gorge.

YELLOW-NECKED FRANCOLIN (*Francolinus leucoscepus*) – About 50 at Samburu, 12 at Solio, and 40 in Tsavo East.
RED-NECKED FRANCOLIN (*Francolinus afer*) – Fairly common in Masai Mara, with a total of about 20.
JACKSON'S FRANCOLIN (*Francolinus jacksoni*) – We had excellent close looks at four different pairs of these normally shy francolins on Mount Kenya.

Podicipedidae (Grebes)

LITTLE GREBE (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*) – Six on a pond at Gatarakwa, and about 20 at Lake Nakuru.

Phoenicopteridae (Flamingos)

GREATER FLAMINGO (*Phoenicopus roseus*) – About 100 at Lake Nakuru, and 300 (distantly) at the Sabaki River estuary.

LESSER FLAMINGO (*Phoenicopus minor*) – A single flock of about 5000 and smaller groups perhaps totalling 2000 were at Lake Nakuru.

Ciconiidae (Storks)

AFRICAN OPENBILL (*Anastomus lamelligerus*) – Three in Masai Mara, and about 150 at Aruba Dam.

WOOLLY-NECKED STORK (*Ciconia episcopus*) – One in Masai Mara, 4 at Voi Safari Lodge, and 1 at the coast.

SADDLE-BILLED STORK (*Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*) – A pair and then a single bird in Masai Mara.

MARABOU STORK (*Leptoptilos crumeniferus*) – Seen first in Nairobi NP, and then frequently throughout the tour; in all we saw about 280.

YELLOW-BILLED STORK (*Mycteria ibis*) – Small numbers were common at a variety of wetlands throughout the tour.

Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants and Shags)

GREAT CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) – One at Sagana, about 500 at Lake Nakuru, and 20 at Lake Naivasha.

LONG-TAILED CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax africanus*) – Small numbers were widespread at wetlands including the coast.

Anhingidae (Anhingas)

AFRICAN DARTER (*Anhinga rufa rufa*) – We saw a single sub-adult at Lake Baringo.

Pelecanidae (Pelicans)

GREAT WHITE PELICAN (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*) – About 5000 at Lake Nakuru and 300 at Lake Naivasha.

PINK-BACKED PELICAN (*Pelecanus rufescens*) – Thirty at Nakuru and 6 at Naivasha.

Scopidae (Hamerkop)

HAMERKOP (*Scopus umbretta*) – Widespread in a variety of wetlands throughout the tour; in all we saw about 110.

Ardeidae (Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns)

LITTLE BITTERN (*Ixobrychus minutus*) – One along the papyrus-fringed shore at Lake Victoria.

GRAY HERON (*Ardea cinerea*) – Small numbers were widespread at wetlands throughout the tour.

BLACK-HEADED HERON (*Ardea melanocephala*) – Prefers drier habitats than the previous species; in all we saw about 60.

GOLIATH HERON (*Ardea goliath*) – We saw singles at the Sagana rice fields, and at Lake Baringo.

PURPLE HERON (*Ardea purpurea*) – One at Keringet Dam and 1 at Kisumu.

GREAT EGRET (*Ardea alba*) – Widespread in small numbers.

INTERMEDIATE EGRET (*Mesophoyx intermedia*) – One at Sagana rice fields, and 6 at Lake Nakuru.

LITTLE EGRET (*Egretta garzetta*) – Two at Sagana, 1 at Baringo, then about 100 between lakes Kisumu, Nakuru and Naivasha, and finally 30 at Mida Creek.

LITTLE EGRET (DIMORPHIC) (*Egretta garzetta dimorpha*) – We saw a close dark morph bird at Mida Creek.

CATTLE EGRET (*Bubulcus ibis*) – Common and widespread throughout the tour.

SQUACCO HERON (*Ardeola ralloides*) – Eight at Lake Baringo.

STRIATED HERON (*Butorides striata*) – Eight at Lake Baringo.

Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)

GLOSSY IBIS (*Plegadis falcinellus*) – Twenty-five near Kisumu, 15 at Lake Nakuru, and 1 at Limuru Pond.

SACRED IBIS (*Threskiornis aethiopicus*) – Away from forests they were widespread throughout the tour.

HADADA IBIS (*Bostrychia hagedash*) – Most common in the highlands, but also widespread at lower altitudes.

AFRICAN SPOONBILL (*Platalea alba*) – Six near Mt. Kenya, 1 at Samburu, and about 250 at Lake Nakuru.

Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, and Kites)

AFRICAN CUCKOO-HAWK (*Aviceda cuculoides*) – Nice views of a low flying bird over the Kilifi baobabs.

BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE (*Elanus caeruleus*) – Small numbers were widespread in open farm country; in all we saw about 20.

BLACK KITE (*Milvus migrans*) – Very common in Nairobi, a few other small towns, and along the coast. All were the yellow-billed form sometimes split as Yellow-billed Kite.

AFRICAN FISH-EAGLE (*Haliaeetus vocifer*) – We saw a total of 12 at 7 different widespread wetland habitats; one bird at Baringo had an AU tag on its left leg.

WHITE-BACKED VULTURE (*Gyps africanus*) – The most common vulture, with the best numbers being in Masai Mara (80+) and Tsavo (40+).

RUEPPELL'S GRIFFON (*Gyps rueppellii*) – Forty-five were roosting on the cliffs at Hell's Gate Gorge, and we then saw about another 40 in Masai Mara.

LAPPET-FACED VULTURE (*Torgos tracheliotus*) – About a dozen in Masai Mara - this species is now considered near-threatened.

WHITE-HEADED VULTURE (*Trigonoceps occipitalis*) – One in Samburu.

BLACK-BREASTED SNAKE-EAGLE (*Circaetus pectoralis*) – One in flight near Lukenya.

BROWN SNAKE-EAGLE (*Circaetus cinereus*) – One in flight near Kongelai, and 4 in Masai Mara.

FASCIATED SNAKE-EAGLE (*Circaetus fasciolatus*) – Also known as Southern Banded Snake-Eagle, we have great looks at a close bird right beside the road at Sokoke Forest - another globally threatened bird!

BATELEUR (*Terathopius ecaudatus*) – Small numbers in big-sky areas like Samburu, Masai Mara, and Tsavo East.

AFRICAN HARRIER-HAWK (*Polyboroides typus*) – Singles near Samburu, Saiwa Swamp, Kongelai, Mungatsi, and Nakuru.

LIZARD BUZZARD (*Kaupifalco monogrammicus*) – One at the coast.

DARK CHANTING-GOSHAWK (*Melierax metabates*) – One feeding on the ground in Masai Mara.

EASTERN CHANTING-GOSHAWK (*Melierax poliopterus*) – Two (including a very dark individual) at Samburu, and then about 6 in Tsavo East.

GABAR GOSHAWK (*Micronisus gabar*) – We saw an immature in Nairobi NP, and 2 adults in Masai Mara.

AFRICAN GOSHAWK (*Accipiter tachiro*) – Good scope looks at an immature at Thika, and then a single adult in Sokoke Forest.

SHIKRA (*Accipiter badius*) – Singles at Baringo and Kongelai.

BLACK GOSHAWK (*Accipiter melanoleucus*) – One in Mungatsi, and then another chasing an Ayres's Hawk-Eagle in Sokoke Forest.

MOUNTAIN BUZZARD (*Buteo oreophilus*) – Two at 10,000 feet on Mt. Kenya.

AUGUR BUZZARD (*Buteo augur*) – Common and widespread.

TAWNY EAGLE (*Aquila rapax*) – Less than usual, with just singles at Solio and Samburu, and then about 8 in Tsavo East.

VERREAUX'S EAGLE (*Aquila verreauxii*) – A pair were seen at a nest with one juvenile on the cliffs at Lukenya.

AFRICAN HAWK-EAGLE (*Aquila spilogaster*) – Two along the cliffs at Lake Baringo, 1 at Kongelai, and then 3 in the Tsavo region.

WAHLBERG'S EAGLE (*Hieraaetus wahlbergi*) – One at Sagana, 1 in the west, and a pair at a nest in the Taita Hills.

AYRES'S HAWK-EAGLE (*Hieraaetus ayresii*) – Two at Mt. Kenya, 2 at Thomson's Falls (for one of the group), 1 at Kakamega, and finally another in Sokoke Forest; all in all a surprisingly good number of these rather rare eagles.

MARTIAL EAGLE (*Polemaetus bellicosus*) – We saw an adult and an immature at Samburu.

LONG-CRESTED EAGLE (*Lophaelagus occipitalis*) – Singles at Mountain Lodge, Keringet, the Busia area, Nakuru, and at the coast.

CROWNED HAWK-EAGLE (*Stephanoaetus coronatus*) – Heard at about 9000ft. on Mt. Kenya.

Sagittariidae (Secretary-bird)

SECRETARY-BIRD (*Sagittarius serpentarius*) – One distantly at Solio, and then much better views of 3 in Masai Mara.

Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)

PYGMY FALCON (*Polihierax semitorquatus*) – Three in Tsavo East.

EURASIAN KESTREL (*Falco tinnunculus*) – One at the bottom of Kongelai Escarpment.

GREATER KESTREL (*Falco rupicoloides*) – Great looks at one right next to the car at Samburu.

LANNER FALCON (*Falco biarmicus*) – One at Hell's Gate Gorge, and a pair in Tsavo East.

PEREGRINE FALCON (*Falco peregrinus*) – Three along the cliffs at Lukenya.

Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules, and Coots)

WHITE-SPOTTED FLUFFTAIL (*Sarothrura pulchra*) – Heard (and 1 person saw it's feet) at the edge of Kakamega Forest.

RED-CHESTED FLUFFTAIL (*Sarothrura rufa*) – Heard at Keringet Dam.

BLACK CRAKE (*Amaurornis flavirostra*) – Small numbers at Nairobi NP, Baringo, and Saiwa Swamp.

COMMON MOORHEN (*Gallinula chloropus*) – Two in Nairobi NP, and 2 at Keringet Dam.

RED-KNOBBED COOT (*Fulica cristata*) – First seen near Thomson's Falls (6) and then at Lake Naivasha (12).

Otididae (Bustards)

KORI BUSTARD (*Ardeotis kori*) – Singles at Hell's Gate Gorge and in Tsavo East.

WHITE-BELLIED BUSTARD (*Eupodotis senegalensis*) – Ten in Samburu were really rather exceptional, and we then saw a further 8 in Tsavo East.

BUFF-CRESTED BUSTARD (*Eupodotis gindiana*) – Five at Samburu and 1 in Tsavo East.

BLACK-BELLIED BUSTARD (*Lissotis melanogaster*) – One at Solio Game Ranch and 1 in Tsavo East.

HARTLAUB'S BUSTARD (*Lissotis hartlaubii*) – Great looks at a close male in Tsavo East.

Gruidae (Cranes)

GRAY CROWNED-CRANE (*Balearica regulorum*) – Most common in the west, but we also saw them throughout the highlands; in all we saw about 90.

Burhinidae (Thick-knees)

WATER THICK-KNEE (*Burhinus vermiculatus*) – Two along the banks of the Mara River.

SPOTTED THICK-KNEE (*Burhinus capensis*) – Thanks to our local guides we saw 1 at Baringo.

Charadriidae (Plovers and Lapwings)

BLACKSMITH PLOVER (*Vanellus armatus*) – Two near Thomson's Falls, and then a total of about 40 at Nakuru, Naivasha, and Masai Mara.

SPUR-WINGED PLOVER (*Vanellus spinosus*) – Widespread both around lakes and in drier areas, in all we saw about 60.

BLACK-HEADED LAPWING (*Vanellus tectus*) – Two along the way to Aruba Dam.

SENEGAL LAPWING (*Vanellus lugubris*) – Three in Masai Mara.

BLACK-WINGED LAPWING (*Vanellus melanopterus*) – Three along the road next to Solio Game Ranch.

CROWNED LAPWING (*Vanellus coronatus*) – Small numbers at Samburu and Solio, and then another 70 around the Rift Valley lakes and in Tsavo.

WATTLED LAPWING (*Vanellus senegallus*) – Good looks at about 10 in Masai Mara.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER (*Pluvialis squatarola*) – About 50 at the coast included a few in near breeding plumage.

LESSER SAND-PLOVER (*Charadrius mongolus*) – About 20 at Mida Creek.

GREATER SAND-PLOVER (*Charadrius leschenaultii*) – About 20 at Mida Creek - and good comparisons with the previous species.

COMMON RINGED PLOVER (*Charadrius hiaticula*) – One at Nakuru, 1 at Aruba Dam, and then about 6 at the coast.

THREE-BANDED PLOVER (*Charadrius tricollaris*) – Two in Samburu, and then singles at Nakuru, and in Masai Mara.

Dromadidae (Crab Plover)

CRAB PLOVER (*Dromas ardeola*) – Great looks at about 30 at Mida Creek.

Haematopodidae (Oystercatchers)

EURASIAN OYSTERCATCHER (*Haematopus ostralegus*) – One at the Sabaki River was unusual.

Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)

BLACK-WINGED STILT (*Himantopus himantopus*) – About 80 at Lake Nakuru and 6 at Limuru Pond.

PIED AVOCET (*Recurvirostra avosetta*) – A single flock of about 50 at Lake Nakuru, and then 6 at Lake Naivasha.

Jacanidae (Jacanas)

AFRICAN JACANA (*Actophilornis africanus*) – Ten at the Sagana rice fields, 4 at Keringet, about 25 around Lake Victoria and 6 at Naivasha.

Scolopacidae (Sandpipers and Allies)

TEREK SANDPIPER (*Xenus cinereus*) – About 50 at Mida Creek.

COMMON SANDPIPER (*Actitis hypoleucos*) – Widespread in small numbers.

GREEN SANDPIPER (*Tringa ochropus*) – Common on a variety of wetlands away from the coast.

COMMON GREENSHANK (*Tringa nebularia*) – About 30 at the coast and 10 others on the Rift Valley lakes.

MARSH SANDPIPER (*Tringa stagnatilis*) – Small numbers at Nakuru, Naivasha, and Limuru Pond.

WOOD SANDPIPER (*Tringa glareola*) – First seen at Ahero, and then at wetlands in Nakuru and Masai Mara.

WHIMBREL (EUROPEAN) (*Numenius phaeopus phaeopus*) – About 40 at Mida Creek.

EURASIAN CURLEW (*Numenius arquata*) – About 20 at Mida Creek.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT (*Limosa lapponica*) – One with other shorebirds at Mida Creek.

RUDDY TURNSTONE (*Arenaria interpres*) – About 30 along the beach as we walked to the Sabaki River Estuary.

SANDERLING (*Calidris alba*) – About 100 at Mida Creek and along the beach to Sabaki River.

LITTLE STINT (*Calidris minuta*) – Forty at Lake Nakuru, and about 200 at Mida Creek.

CURLEW SANDPIPER (*Calidris ferruginea*) – Two hundred at Mida Creek.

RUFF (*Philomachus pugnax*) – About 100 at Lake Nakuru.

Turnicidae (Buttonquail)

SMALL BUTTONQUAIL (*Turnix sylvaticus*) – One was flushed in the Masai Mara grasslands.

Glareolidae (Pratincoles and Coursers)

CREAM-COLORED COURSER (*Cursorius cursor somalensis*) – African authorities now split this as Somali Courser, *C. somalensis*; we had great looks at 2 in Samburu GR. and then even more surprising were a pair and another with a juvenile south of Aruba Dam.

TEMMINCK'S COURSER (*Cursorius temminckii*) – Two at Solio Game Ranch (in tall grass) and then great looks at 2 more at the Kichwa Tembo airstrip.

THREE-BANDED COURSER (*Rhinoptilus cinctus*) – Thanks to our local guides we saw 1 at Lake Baringo.

ROCK PRATINCOLE (*Glareola nuchalis*) – About 20 on rocks in the fast flowing river on our way to Kisumu.

Rostratulidae (Painted-Snipes)

GREATER PAINTED-SNIPE (*Rostratula benghalensis*) – Wonderful looks at 2 males right next to our vehicle in Nakuru NP.

Laridae (Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers)

GRAY-HOODED GULL (*Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus*) – About 500 at Nakuru and 50 at Naivasha.

SOOTY GULL (*Ichthyophaga hemprichii*) – About 50 were at the Sabaki River estuary.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL (HEUGLIN'S) (*Larus fuscus heuglini*) – Seven at the Sabaki River estuary.

GULL-BILLED TERN (*Gelochelidon nilotica*) – A total of about 60 were seen around the Rift Valley lakes and at the coast.

CASPIAN TERN (*Hydroprogne caspia*) – One at the Sabaki River estuary.

WHITE-WINGED TERN (*Chlidonias leucopterus*) – Three in non-breeding plumage at Lake Nakuru.

WHISKERED TERN (*Chlidonias hybrida*) – About 130 at lakes Victoria, Nakuru and Naivasha.

COMMON TERN (*Sterna hirundo*) – One at Mida Creek.

WHITE-CHEEKED TERN (*Sterna repressa*) – One in breeding plumage at Mida Creek was totally unexpected.

GREAT CRESTED TERN (*Thalasseus bergii*) – One at the Sabaki River estuary.

LESSER CRESTED TERN (*Thalasseus bengalensis*) – One at the Sabaki River estuary.

Pteroclididae (Sandgrouse)

BLACK-FACED SANDGROUSE (*Pterocles decoratus*) – About 40 at Samburu and 2 in Tsavo East.

Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)

ROCK PIGEON (*Columba livia*) – Fairly common around small towns and villages on the way to the coast.

SPECKLED PIGEON (*Columba guinea*) – Very common and widespread.

RAMERON PIGEON (*Columba arquatrix*) – One at Mountain Lodge.

DELEGORGUE'S PIGEON (*Columba delegorguei*) – About 25 at Mountain Lodge.

DUSKY TURTLE-DOVE (*Streptopelia lugens*) – One at Hell's Gate Gorge.

AFRICAN MOURNING DOVE (*Streptopelia decipiens*) – Common in dry bush country like Samburu, Baringo, and Tsavo East.

RED-EYED DOVE (*Streptopelia semitorquata*) – Common in the wetter country of the highlands and at the coast.

RING-NECKED DOVE (*Streptopelia capicola*) – Common and widespread.

LAUGHING DOVE (*Streptopelia senegalensis*) – Common and widespread.

EMERALD-SPOTTED WOOD-DOVE (*Turtur chalcospilos*) – Small numbers at Samburu, Baringo, and Tsavo.

BLUE-SPOTTED WOOD-DOVE (*Turtur afer*) – Good looks at 1 at Saiwa Swamp, and then about 8 in the west, and 3 in Masai Mara.

TAMBOURINE DOVE (*Turtur tympanistria*) – Four at Saiwa and 1 at the coast.

NAMAQUA DOVE (*Oena capensis*) – Small numbers in dry bush country throughout the tour.

AFRICAN GREEN-PIGEON (*Treron calvus*) – Four at Thika, 8 at Kakamega, and 4 more in Masai Mara.

Psittacidae (Parrots)

RED-HEADED LOVEBIRD (*Agapornis pullarius*) – Three zipped by over the fields at Mungatsi.

FISCHER'S LOVEBIRD (*Agapornis fischeri*) – One at Kisumu.

YELLOW-COLLARED LOVEBIRD (*Agapornis personatus*) – About 30 roosting in the palm trees at Lake Naivasha.

RED-FRONTED PARROT (*Poicephalus gulielmi*) – About 30 (mostly in flight) in the Mt. Kenya area.

MEYER'S PARROT (*Poicephalus meyeri*) – Ten around Kongelai and Kitale, and 8 in Masai Mara.

RED-BELLIED PARROT (*Poicephalus rufiventris*) – About 30 in Samburu, and 3 in Tsavo East.

Musophagidae (Turacos)

GREAT BLUE TURACO (*Corythaeola cristata*) – A total of 9 (in 3 small groups) at Kakamega.

SCHALOW'S TURACO (*Tauraco schalowi*) – Great looks at 1 (and 2 more heard) in Masai Mara.

WHITE-CRESTED TURACO (*Tauraco leucolophus*) – Fabulous looks at this fabulous bird on the Kongelai Escarpment.

FISCHER'S TURACO (*Tauraco fischeri*) – After some effort we finally got good looks at 2 at the edge of Sokoke Forest.

HARTLAUB'S TURACO (*Tauraco hartlaubi*) – Ten at Mt. Kenya, and 3 in the Tugen Hills.

ROSS'S TURACO (*Musophaga rossae*) – Four in the Kitale area, and 2 at Masai Mara.

BARE-FACED GO-AWAY-BIRD (*Corythaixoides personatus*) – Two along the road from Kisumu to Kericho.

WHITE-BELLIED GO-AWAY-BIRD (*Corythaixoides leucogaster*) – Small numbers were widespread in dry bush country.

EASTERN PLANTAIN-EATER (*Crinifer zonurus*) – Two singles on the Kongelai Escarpment.

Cuculidae (Cuckoos)

PIED CUCKOO (*Clamator jacobinus*) – Two at Baringo.

GREAT SPOTTED CUCKOO (*Clamator glandarius*) – Two singles at Lake Nakuru.

THICK-BILLED CUCKOO (*Pachycoccyx audeberti*) – Great looks at this rather rare cuckoo flying over the Sokoke Forest.

RED-CHESTED CUCKOO (*Cuculus solitarius*) – Singles at Kerio Valley, Saiwa, Kakamega, Nakuru, and Naivasha.

KLAAS'S CUCKOO (*Chrysococcyx klaas*) – Nice looks at 1 near Mountain Lodge, and then again in Masai Mara.

AFRICAN EMERALD CUCKOO (*Chrysococcyx cupreus*) – Heard at Saiwa Swamp.

DIDERIC CUCKOO (*Chrysococcyx caprius*) – Good looks at Baringo.

YELLOWBILL (*Ceuthmochares aereus*) – One was scoped high in the canopy at Kakamega Forest.

BLUE-HEADED COUCAL (*Centropus monachus*) – Two at Saiwa Swamp and 1 near Mumais.

SENEGAL COUCAL (*Centropus senegalensis*) – One at Mungatsi.

WHITE-BROWED COUCAL (*Centropus superciliosus*) – Small numbers were widespread throughout the tour.

Strigidae (Owls)

SOKOKE SCOPS-OWL (*Otus ireneae*) – Fantastic looks at a pair of these rare owls at a day roost in the Sokoke Cynometra.

AFRICAN SCOPS-OWL (*Otus senegalensis*) – Fantastic close day time looks at Lake Baringo.

NORTHERN WHITE-FACED OWL (*Ptilopsis leucotis*) – Once again, thanks to our local guides for great looks at Lake Baringo.

CAPE EAGLE-OWL (*Bubo capensis mackinderi*) – We had good scope views of the distinctive form mackinderi (probably a distinct species) at Gatarakwa.

GRAYISH EAGLE-OWL (*Bubo cinerascens*) – One at Lake Baringo.

VERREAUX'S EAGLE-OWL (*Bubo lacteus*) – One on the ground in broad daylight at Samburu.

PEARL-SPOTTED OWLET (*Glaucidium perlatum*) – Singles at Samburu, Baringo, and Tsavo East.

Caprimulgidae (Nightjars and Allies)

ABYSSINIAN NIGHTJAR (*Caprimulgus poliocephalus*) – Heard at Mountain Lodge, and then seen well at Kitale.

SLENDER-TAILED NIGHTJAR (*Caprimulgus clarus*) – Great scope views in daylight at Lake Baringo.

Apodidae (Swifts)

NYANZA SWIFT (*Apus niansae*) – About 5000 at Hell's Gate Gorge.

AFRICAN SWIFT (*Apus barbatus*) – Small numbers at Kongelai.

LITTLE SWIFT (*Apus affinis*) – Widespread throughout the tour.

WHITE-RUMPED SWIFT (*Apus caffer*) – Two near Lake Baringo, and about a dozen in Masai Mara.

AFRICAN PALM-SWIFT (*Cypsiurus parvus*) – Small numbers were widespread throughout the tour.

Coliidae (Mousebirds)

SPECKLED MOUSEBIRD (*Colius striatus*) – Very common and widespread.

WHITE-HEADED MOUSEBIRD (*Colius leucocephalus*) – One at Samburu.

BLUE-NAPED MOUSEBIRD (*Urocolius macrourus*) – Small numbers in dry bush country like Samburu, Baringo, and Tsavo.

Trogonidae (Trogons)

NARINA TROGON (*Apaloderma narina*) – Two singles in the Tugen Hills.

Alcedinidae (Kingfishers)

MALACHITE KINGFISHER (*Corythornis cristatus*) – Four at Lake Baringo, 2 at Kisumu, and singles at Nakuru and Naivasha.

AFRICAN PYGMY-KINGFISHER (*Ispidina picta*) – One at Mungatsi.

GRAY-HEADED KINGFISHER (*Halcyon leucocephala*) – One at Sagana, and about 6 in the Tsavo area.

WOODLAND KINGFISHER (*Halcyon senegalensis*) – Two at Baringo, 4 in the Kitale area, and about 6 around Kisumu.

MANGROVE KINGFISHER (*Halcyon senegaloides*) – One at Mida Creek.

BROWN-HOODED KINGFISHER (*Halcyon albiventris*) – One high in the Taita Hills.

STRIPED KINGFISHER (*Halcyon chelicuti*) – Two at the bottom of the Kongelai Escarpment.

GIANT KINGFISHER (*Megaceryle maximus*) – Singles at Gatarakwa, Baringo, and Lake Naivasha.

PIED KINGFISHER (*Ceryle rudis*) – Common at a variety of wetlands throughout the tour.

Meropidae (Bee-eaters)

BLUE-HEADED BEE-EATER (*Merops muelleri*) – Fantastic looks at 2 of these rare bee-eaters at Kakamega.

WHITE-FRONTED BEE-EATER (*Merops bullockoides*) – Two at Lake Nakuru.

LITTLE BEE-EATER (*Merops pusillus*) – Two at Samburu, and about 10 in Masai Mara.

CINNAMON-CHESTED BEE-EATER (*Merops oreobates*) – Two in Nairobi NP, 6 at Mt. Kenya, and 5 at Kakamega.

SOMALI BEE-EATER (*Merops revivax*) – Good looks at 2 of these localised bee-eaters in Samburu.

WHITE-THROATED BEE-EATER (*Merops albicollis*) – One at Kakamega.

MADAGASCAR BEE-EATER (*Merops superciliosus*) – About a dozen at Lake Baringo, and 3 at Ahero.

NORTHERN CARMINE BEE-EATER (*Merops nubicus*) – Three in the sisal fields near Kilifi.

Coraciidae (Rollers)

LILAC-BREASTED ROLLER (*Coracias caudatus*) – Common and widespread in open country.

RUFOUS-CROWNED ROLLER (*Coracias naevius*) – Two singles at Baringo.

BROAD-BILLED ROLLER (*Eurystomus glaucurus*) – One at the bottom of Kongelai Escarpment.

Upupidae (Hoopoes)

EURASIAN HOOPOE (EURASIAN) (*Upupa epops waibeli*) – One (with the white bar in the primaries) was seen at Lake Nakuru.

EURASIAN HOOPOE (AFRICAN) (*Upupa epops africana*) – We saw birds with all black primaries at Nairobi, Samburu and Lake Nakuru.

Phoeniculidae (Woodhoopoes and Scimitar-bills)

GREEN WOODHOOPOE (*Phoeniculus purpureus*) – Small groups were widespread in open woodland areas.

WHITE-HEADED WOODHOOPOE (*Phoeniculus bollei*) – Eight at Mountain Lodge.

COMMON SCIMITAR-BILL (*Rhinopomastus cyanomelas*) – One at Hunter's Lodge.

ABYSSINIAN SCIMITAR-BILL (*Rhinopomastus minor*) – Four at Samburu.

Bucerotidae (Hornbills)

RED-BILLED HORNBILL (*Tockus erythrorhynchus*) – Common in dry country like Samburu, Baringo, and Tsavo East.

EASTERN YELLOW-BILLED HORNBILL (*Tockus flavirostris*) – Ten at Samburu, and 2 at Baringo.

JACKSON'S HORNBILL (*Tockus jacksoni*) – A total of about 20 were seen at Baringo and Kongelai.

VON DER DECKEN'S HORNBILL (*Tockus deckeni*) – About 10 at Samburu, and 12 in Tsavo East.

CROWNED HORNBILL (*Tockus alboterminatus*) – Five at Naro Moru, 4 near Kitale, and 3 in Masai Mara.

AFRICAN GRAY HORNBILL (*Tockus nasutus*) – One was seen briefly by some of the group in the Kerio Valley, and we then all saw them well in Tsavo East.

TRUMPETER HORNBILL (*Ceratogymna bucinator*) – Eight in flight over Sokoke Forest.

SILVERY-CHEEKED HORNBILL (*Ceratogymna brevis*) – About 20 at Mountain Lodge, and 2 at a Nairobi shopping mall.

BLACK-AND-WHITE-CASQUED HORNBILL (*Ceratogymna subcylindrica*) – At least 100 at Kakamega Forest.

SOUTHERN GROUND-HORNBILL (*Bucorvus leadbeateri*) – A pair and an immature were seen in Masai Mara; ground-hornbills are now more frequently placed in their own family - Bucorvidae.

Lybiidae (African Barbets)

YELLOW-BILLED BARBET (*Trachyphonus purpuratus*) – One in the Tugen Hills, and 1 seen and many heard at Kakamega.

RED-AND-YELLOW BARBET (*Trachyphonus erythrocephalus*) – We saw this gorgeous barbet at Baringo, Kongelai, and in Tsavo East.

D'ARNAUD'S BARBET (*Trachyphonus darnaudii*) – Small numbers in dry country.

D'ARNAUD'S BARBET (USAMBIRO) (*Trachyphonus darnaudii usambiro*) – Usually split from the previous form, these pale-billed and green-headed birds were fairly common in Masai Mara.

GRAY-THROATED BARBET (*Gymnobucco bonapartei*) – Great looks at this 'rhino barbet' at Kakamega.

GREEN BARBET (*Stactolaema olivacea*) – Four in Sokoke Forest.

GREEN TINKERBIRD (*Pogoniulus simplex*) – One in Sokoke Forest.

YELLOW-RUMPED TINKERBIRD (*Pogoniulus bilineatus leucolaimus*) – We saw this 'lemon-rumped' form at Mungatsi.

YELLOW-RUMPED TINKERBIRD (*Pogoniulus bilineatus bilineatus*) – Two at Mountain Lodge, several at Kakamega, and 1 at Nakuru; all were the 'golden-rumped' form.

RED-FRONTED TINKERBIRD (*Pogoniulus pusillus*) – One at Baringo, and 2 in Tsavo East.

YELLOW-SPOTTED BARBET (*Buccanodon duchaillui*) – Two in the grounds at Rondo Retreat, and several others heard at Kakamega.

HAIRY-BREASTED BARBET (*Tricholaema hirsuta*) – We scoped 1 high in the canopy at Kakamega Forest.

RED-FRONTED BARBET (*Tricholaema diademata*) – We saw a total of about 9 at Samburu, Baringo, Kongelai and Lake Nakuru.

SPOT-FLANKED BARBET (*Tricholaema lacrymosa*) – Four at Thika, 2 in Masai Mara, and 6 in Tsavo East.
BLACK-THROATED BARBET (*Tricholaema melanocephala*) – Two at Samburu, and 2 at Baringo.
WHITE-HEADED BARBET (*Lybius leucocephalus*) – Five at Kongelai, and 1 at Naivasha.
BLACK-BILLED BARBET (*Lybius guifsobalito*) – Two were seen 50kms. east of Kisumu.
BROWN-BREASTED BARBET (*Lybius melanopterus*) – Good looks in the fig trees on the Taita Hills.
DOUBLE-TOOTHED BARBET (*Lybius bidentatus*) – We saw the huge striking barbets in the Kerio Valley, at Kongelai, and at Kakamega.

Indicatoridae (Honeyguides)

LEAST HONEYGUIDE (*Indicator exilis*) – One at Kakamega.
THICK-BILLED HONEYGUIDE (*Indicator conirostris*) – One at Kakamega.
LESSER HONEYGUIDE (*Indicator minor*) – One at Mungatsi.
SCALY-THROATED HONEYGUIDE (*Indicator variegatus*) – One in the Tugen Hills, and then great looks at 1 in Sokoke Forest.
GREATER HONEYGUIDE (*Indicator indicator*) – We saw an immature bird at Kongelai Escarpment.

Picidae (Woodpeckers)

RUFIOUS-NECKED WRYNECK (*Jynx ruficollis*) – Good looks at 2 in Masai Mara.
NUBIAN WOODPECKER (*Campethera nubica*) – Widespread in small numbers in acacia country.
TULLBERG'S WOODPECKER (*Campethera tullbergi taeniolaema*) – We saw the distinctive form commonly known as Fine-banded Woodpecker *C. taeniolaema* in the Tugen Hills.
BUFF-SPOTTED WOODPECKER (*Campethera nivosa*) – Two single birds in the middle levels at Kakamega.
SPECKLE-BREASTED WOODPECKER (*Dendropicos poecilolaemus*) – Good looks at this very uncommon woodpecker along the Saio River near Mungatsi.
CARDINAL WOODPECKER (*Dendropicos fuscescens*) – Small numbers were widespread.
BEARDED WOODPECKER (*Dendropicos namaquus*) – Two at Samburu.
GOLDEN-CROWNED WOODPECKER (*Dendropicos xantholophus*) – A pair in the canopy of tall trees at Kakamega.
GRAY WOODPECKER (*Dendropicos goertae*) – Two at the bottom of Kongelai Escarpment.
GRAY-HEADED WOODPECKER (*Dendropicos spodocephalus rhodeogaster*) – One at Naivasha.

Eurylaimidae (Broadbills)

AFRICAN BROADBILL (*Smithornis capensis*) – Two heard at Kakamega Forest on the first day and then fabulous looks at a displaying bird the following day.

Platysteiridae (Wattle-eyes and Batises)

BROWN-THROATED WATTLE-EYE (*Platysteira cyanea*) – Common at Kakamega, although far more were heard than seen.
BLACK-THROATED WATTLE-EYE (*Platysteira peltata*) – Excellent looks at two pairs at Saiwa Swamp.
CHESTNUT WATTLE-EYE (*Platysteira castanea*) – A pair in the middle levels at Kakamega Forest.
JAMESON'S WATTLE-EYE (*Platysteira jamesoni*) – One at Kakamega for most of the group.
YELLOW-BELLIED WATTLE-EYE (*Platysteira concreta*) – Fantastic looks at a pair of these gorgeous birds in Kakamega Forest.
SHORT-TAILED BATIS (*Batis mixta*) – Two in the Afzelia at Sokoke Forest.
CHINSPOT BATIS (*Batis molitor*) – The most widespread batis, with small numbers in a variety of woodland.
PALE BATIS (*Batis soror*) – Two in the canopy at Sokoke Forest.
BLACK-HEADED BATIS (*Batis minor*) – One at Kongelai.
PYGMY BATIS (*Batis perkeo*) – Three along the cliffs at Baringo, and heard in Tsavo East.

Prionopidae (Helmetshrikes and Allies)

WHITE HELMETSHRIKE (*Prionops plumatus*) – A flock of 9 of these striking helmetshrikes were very responsive to a Pearl-spotted Owllet recording at Kongelai.
RETZ'S HELMETSHRIKE (*Prionops retzii*) – Five at Hunter's Lodge were totally unexpected.
CHESTNUT-FRONTED HELMETSHRIKE (*Prionops scopifrons*) – We saw about 40 of these globally threatened birds

in Sokoke Forest.

Malaconotidae (Bushshrikes and Allies)

BRUBRU (*Nilaus afer*) – Common at Samburu (10), and 2 at Lake Baringo.

NORTHERN PUFFBACK (*Dryoscopus gambensis*) – Singles at Kongelai and Saiwa Swamp.

BLACK-BACKED PUFFBACK (*Dryoscopus cubla*) – One near Mt. Kenya, and then another dozen between Tsavo and the coast.

BROWN-CROWNED TCHAGRA (*Tchagra australis*) – One in Masai Mara.

THREE-STREAKED TCHAGRA (*Tchagra jamesi*) – One was seen in a flight display at Lake Baringo.

LUEHDER'S BUSHSHRIKE (*Laniarius luehderi*) – First seen at Saiwa Swamp and then many times in Kakamega Forest.

ZANZIBAR BOUBOU (*Laniarius sublacteus*) – We saw a pair of this recently split species in Sokoke Forest.

BLACK-HEADED GONOLEK (*Laniarius erythrogaster*) – One in the Kerio Valley, and 2 near Mungatsi.

PAPYRUS GONOLEK (*Laniarius mufumbiri*) – It took a while, but eventually we all got great looks at this striking papyrus endemic near Kisumu.

SLATE-COLORED BOUBOU (*Laniarius funebris*) – Small numbers at Samburu, Baringo, and in Tsavo East.

ROSY-PATCHED BUSHSHRIKE (*Rhodophoneus cruentus*) – Four in Tsavo East.

GRAY-GREEN BUSHSHRIKE (*Telophorus bocagei*) – About 8 at Kakamega.

SULPHUR-BREASTED BUSHSHRIKE (*Telophorus sulfureopectus*) – Great looks at the bottom of the Kongelai Escarpment.

BLACK-FRONTED BUSHSHRIKE (*Telophorus nigrifrons*) – Three in the forest on top of the Tugen Hills.

FOUR-COLORED BUSHSHRIKE (*Telophorus viridis quadricolor*) – Great looks at this normally very shy bushshrike in Sokoke Forest.

GRAY-HEADED BUSHSHRIKE (*Malaconotus blanchoti*) – One at Hunter's Lodge.

Campephagidae (Cuckoo-shrikes)

GRAY CUCKOO-SHRIKE (*Coracina caesia*) – Four at Mt. Kenya, and 1 in the Tugen Hills.

PETIT'S CUCKOO-SHRIKE (*Campephaga petiti*) – We saw 2 single males at Kakamega Forest.

BLACK CUCKOO-SHRIKE (*Campephaga flava*) – Small numbers at Mountain Lodge, Kongelai, Kakamega, and in Tsavo.

Laniidae (Shrikes)

GRAY-BACKED FISCAL (*Lanius excubitoroides*) – Small numbers in open woodlands at Kongelai, Kisumu, Nakuru and Masai Mara.

LONG-TAILED FISCAL (*Lanius cabanisi*) – About 20 in the Voi area.

TAITA FISCAL (*Lanius dorsalis*) – Small numbers in the arid country of Samburu and Tsavo East.

MACKINNON'S SHRIKE (*Lanius mackinnoni*) – One in the grounds of Rondo Retreat, and 2 along the forest edge there.

COMMON FISCAL (*Lanius collaris*) – Widespread in the central and western highlands.

WHITE-RUMPED SHRIKE (*Eurocephalus rueppelli*) – Fairly common in dry bush country at Samburu, Baringo, Kongelai, and Tsavo East.

Oriolidae (Old World Orioles)

AFRICAN GOLDEN ORIOLE (*Oriolus auratus*) – Two in the mangroves at Mida Creek.

WESTERN BLACK-HEADED ORIOLE (*Oriolus brachyrhynchus*) – One at Kakamega.

AFRICAN BLACK-HEADED ORIOLE (*Oriolus larvatus*) – Small numbers were widespread in a variety of open woodland and bush country throughout the tour.

Dicruridae (Drongos)

SQUARE-TAILED DRONGO (*Dicrurus ludwigii*) – Two in Kakamega Forest.

FORK-TAILED DRONGO (*Dicrurus adsimilis*) – Common and widespread in open country and the coastal forests.

Monarchidae (Monarch Flycatchers)

YELLOW FLYCATCHER (*Erythrocerus holochlorus*) – Six in Sokoke Forest.

AFRICAN CRESTED-FLYCATCHER (*Trochocercus cyanomelas*) – Good looks at a male in the dense *Azelia* forest at Sokoke.

AFRICAN PARADISE-FLYCATCHER (*Terpsiphone viridis*) – Widespread in small numbers (including 2 white morph birds at Baringo).

Corvidae (Crows, Jays, and Magpies)

HOUSE CROW (*Corvus splendens*) – Very common all along the coast.

CAPE CROW (*Corvus capensis*) – Quite common in the highlands.

PIED CROW (*Corvus albus*) – Common and widespread throughout the tour.

FAN-TAILED RAVEN (*Corvus rhipidurus*) – Six at Samburu, and 1 at Mukutano.

Alaudidae (Larks)

RED-WINGED LARK (*Mirafr hypermetra*) – About 8 in the drier more open areas of Tsavo East.

RUFOUS-NAPED LARK (*Mirafr africana*) – We saw this grassland species at Nairobi NP, Solio GR, and in Masai Mara.

PINK-BREASTED LARK (*Calendulauda poecilosterna*) – Common at Samburu and in Tsavo East.

FOXY LARK (*Calendulauda alopex*) – Formerly considered to be a race of southern African Fawn-colored Lark but now given species status; we saw 1 at Samburu.

CHESTNUT-HEADED SPARROW-LARK (*Eremopterix signatus*) – About 40 near Aruba Dam.

FISCHER'S SPARROW-LARK (*Eremopterix leucopareia*) – A female in Nairobi NP.

RED-CAPPED LARK (*Calandrella cinerea*) – One on the South Kinangop.

Hirundinidae (Swallows)

PLAIN MARTIN (*Riparia paludicola*) – About 30 over the Sagana rice fields, 20 at Kisumu, and perhaps another 60 at lakes Nakuru and Naivasha.

BANDED MARTIN (*Riparia cincta*) – Six at the Ahero rice fields, and 2 in Masai Mara.

ROCK MARTIN (*Ptyonoprogne fuligula*) – Small numbers at Mountain Lodge, Baringo, and other areas with small cliffs and big lodges!

BARN SWALLOW (*Hirundo rustica*) – Widespread from mid-month onwards.

ETHIOPIAN SWALLOW (*Hirundo aethiopica*) – Four at the coast.

ANGOLA SWALLOW (*Hirundo angolensis*) – One on the road near Naro Moru River Lodge was totally unexpected, and we also saw 6 at Saiwa Swamp.

WIRE-TAILED SWALLOW (*Hirundo smithii*) – Widespread in small numbers.

RED-RUMPED SWALLOW (*Cecropis daurica*) – Another widespread swallow.

LESSER STRIPED-SWALLOW (*Cecropis abyssinica*) – First seen around Kisumu, but then again several times at Tsavo and the coast.

MOSQUE SWALLOW (*Cecropis senegalensis*) – Four near Saiwa Swamp, and 2 in Masai Mara.

WHITE-HEADED SAWWING (*Psaldiprocne albiceps*) – Briefly at Kongelai, and then very nicely for everyone at Kakamega.

BLACK SAWWING (*Psaldiprocne pristoptera*) – About 40 at Mt. Kenya, 10 in the Tugen Hills, and 20 in Masai Mara.

Stenostiridae (Fairy Flycatchers)

AFRICAN BLUE-FLYCATCHER (*Elminia longicauda*) – Four at Kitale, and 6 at Kakamega.

Paridae (Chickadees and Tits)

WHITE-BELLIED TIT (*Melaniparus albiventris*) – One in Nairobi NP, and 5 at Mt. Kenya.

RED-THROATED TIT (*Melaniparus fringillinus*) – We saw 1 of these East African endemics at Lukenya.

SOMALI TIT (*Melaniparus thruppi*) – Four at Samburu, and about 8 at Baringo.

Remizidae (Penduline-Tits)

MOUSE-COLORED PENDULINE-TIT (*Anthoscopus musculus*) – Great looks at a pair at a nest at Lake Baringo (and 4 others in the surrounding bush country).

Pycnonotidae (Bulbuls)

COMMON BULBUL (*Pycnonotus barbatus dodsoni*) – This white-necked form is sometimes split as Dodson's Bulbul; they were common at Samburu and in Tsavo East.

COMMON BULBUL (*Pycnonotus barbatus tricolor*) – Very common away from Samburu and Tsavo.

SHELLEY'S GREENBUL (*Andropadus masukuensis kakamegae*) – The form 'kakamegae' is now split as Kakamega

Greenbul; we saw about 5 nicely as they worked along branches with a nuthatch-like feeding behaviour.

LITTLE GREENBUL (*Andropadus virens*) – Good looks at singles at Kakamega and Mungatsi.

ANSORGE'S GREENBUL (*Andropadus ansorgei*) – Nice looks at a couple of singles in the middle levels at Kakamega.

PLAIN GREENBUL (*Andropadus curvirostris*) – Three feeding in fruiting bushes at the edge of Kakamega Forest.

SLENDER-BILLED GREENBUL (*Andropadus gracilirostris*) – Fairly common in the high canopy at Mt. Kenya, the Tugen Hills, and at Kakamega.

SOMBRE GREENBUL (*Andropadus importunus*) – Two or three singles at the coast.

YELLOW-WHISKERED GREENBUL (*Andropadus latirostris*) – One at Naro Moru, 1 in the Tugen Hills, and common at Kakamega.

EASTERN MOUNTAIN-GREENBUL (*Andropadus nigriceps nigriceps*) – We saw about a dozen at Mt. Kenya.

STRIPE-CHEEKED GREENBUL (*Andropadus milanensis olivaceiceps*) – Difficult this year, but eventually we all saw 2 in the Taita Hills.

YELLOW-THROATED GREENBUL (*Chlorocichla flavicollis*) – One at the edge of Kakamega Forest, and 4 at Mungatsi.

YELLOW-BELLIED GREENBUL (*Chlorocichla flaviventris*) – About 20 at Sokoke Forest.

JOYFUL GREENBUL (*Chlorocichla laetissima*) – A joyful bird of the Kakamega Forest.

CABANIS'S GREENBUL (*Phyllastrephus cabanisi*) – Good looks at 1 at Saiwa Swamp.

CABANIS'S GREENBUL (*Phyllastrephus cabanisi placidus*) – Heard several times in the Taita Hills, but they only gave us the briefest views.

TERRESTRIAL BROWNBUL (*Phyllastrephus terrestris*) – Heard in Sokoke Forest.

NORTHERN BROWNBUL (*Phyllastrephus strepitans*) – Four at Samburu, and 2 at Baringo.

TORO OLIVE-GREENBUL (*Phyllastrephus hypochloris*) – Good looks at this rather uncommon species at Kakamega Forest.

TINY GREENBUL (*Phyllastrephus debilis*) – Good looks at 1 in the dense Afzelia at Sokoke Forest.

COMMON BRISTLEBILL (*Bleda syndactylus*) – Heard by all, and 1 was seen well by most of the group in Kakamega Forest.

Phylloscopidae (Leaf-Warblers)

YELLOW-THROATED WOOD-WARBLER (*Phylloscopus ruficapilla*) – Nice looks at about 8 in the Taita Hills.

UGANDA WOOD-WARBLER (*Phylloscopus budongoensis*) – Two seen and many heard at Kakamega.

BROWN WOODLAND-WARBLER (*Phylloscopus umbrovirens*) – One above 10,000 ft. on Mt. Kenya.

WILLOW WARBLER (*Phylloscopus trochilus*) – One in Masai Mara.

Acrocephalidae (Reed-Warblers and Allies)

MOUNTAIN YELLOW WARBLER (*Chloropeta similis*) – Four on the higher slopes of Mt. Kenya.

GREATER SWAMP-WARBLER (*Acrocephalus rufescens*) – We eventually saw 2-3 sneaking around in the papyrus along the shores of Lake Victoria.

LESSER SWAMP-WARBLER (*Acrocephalus gracilirostris*) – One in a reed bed near Thomson's Falls.

Megaluridae (Grassbirds and Allies)

AFRICAN BUSH-WARBLER (*Bradypterus baboecala*) – More commonly known as Little Rush Warbler, we had excellent views of this often shy and difficult species at Saiwa Swamp.

CINNAMON BRACKEN-WARBLER (*Bradypterus cinnamomeus*) – Another shy *Bradypterus* warbler - we all had excellent close views on Mt. Kenya.

Cisticolidae (Cisticolas and Allies)

BLACK-COLLARED APALIS (*Apalis pulchra*) – Four at Saiwa Swamp, and about 6 at Kakamega.

BAR-THROATED APALIS (*Apalis thoracica fuscigularis*) – This form is now usually split at Taita Apalis, we were privileged to see this very rare bird in the forest on top of the Taita Hills.

BLACK-THROATED APALIS (*Apalis jacksoni*) – Nice looks at this attractive apalis at Mountain Lodge.

YELLOW-BREASTED APALIS (*Apalis flavida*) – Two near Mt. Kenya, and 1 in Masai Mara.

YELLOW-BREASTED APALIS (*Apalis flavida viridiceps*) – Pairs along the cliffs at Lake Baringo and in Tsavo East have very different calls to the highland birds and are often split as Brown-tailed Apalis.

BUFF-THROATED APALIS (*Apalis rufogularis*) – We saw an extrovert bird drop from the canopy to below knee level along the road through Kakamega Forest, several others were as usual high in the tree tops.

CHESTNUT-THROATED APALIS (*Apalis porphyrolaema*) – Two singles at Mountain Lodge.

BLACK-HEADED APALIS (*Apalis melanocephala*) – Very nice looks in Sokoke Forest.

GRAY APALIS (*Apalis cinerea*) – Small numbers in both the central and western highlands.

GREEN-BACKED CAMAROPTERA (*Camaroptera brachyura brevicaudata*) – The grey-backed form was common and widespread.

OLIVE-GREEN CAMAROPTERA (*Camaroptera chloronota*) – Two singles at Kakamega Forest.

RED-FRONTED WARBLER (*Urorhipis rufifrons*) – Two at Samburu, and 4 at Baringo.

GRAY WREN-WARBLER (*Calamonastes simplex*) – Two at Samburu, and 1 at Baringo.

WHITE-CHINNED PRINIA (*Schistolais leucopogon*) – Common along the forest edge at Kakamega and in the Mungatsi area.

RED-FACED CISTICOLA (*Cisticola erythrops*) – Two along the shore at Lake Victoria.

SINGING CISTICOLA (*Cisticola cantans*) – Four at Limuru Pond.

WHISTLING CISTICOLA (*Cisticola lateralis*) – We saw this extremely localised bird near Busia in the far west.

TRILLING CISTICOLA (*Cisticola woosnami*) – One on the Oloololo Escarpment, Masai Mara.

CHUBB'S CISTICOLA (*Cisticola chubbi*) – Four at Saiwa Swamp, and about a dozen at Kakamega Forest.

HUNTER'S CISTICOLA (*Cisticola hunteri*) – About a dozen in the Mt. Kenya area.

BORAN CISTICOLA (*Cisticola bodessa*) – We saw 1 of these localised cisticolas on the north side of Mt. Kenya.

RATTLING CISTICOLA (*Cisticola chiniana*) – Small numbers in acacia country like Samburu, Baringo, Kongelai and Nakuru.

ASHY CISTICOLA (*Cisticola cinereolus*) – Nice looks at 1 in Tsavo East.

WAILING CISTICOLA (*Cisticola lais distinctus*) – Now usually split as Lynes's Cisticola *C. distinctus* we saw 1 at Hell's Gate Gorge.

WINDING CISTICOLA (*Cisticola galactotes*) – Ten in the far west (especially near water) and then at Naivasha, Masai Mara, and Limuru Pond.

CARRUTHERS'S CISTICOLA (*Cisticola carruthersi*) – Very hard this year, but we eventually all saw at least 1 in the papyrus at Lake Victoria.

TINKLING CISTICOLA (*Cisticola tinniens*) – More commonly known as Levaillant's Cisticola, we saw 2 at Kerenget Dam.

STOUT CISTICOLA (*Cisticola robustus*) – A dozen in Nairobi NP, and 50+ in Masai Mara.

TABORA CISTICOLA (*Cisticola angusticauda*) – Good looks at 1 on top of the Oloololo Escarpment.

PECTORAL-PATCH CISTICOLA (*Cisticola brunnescens*) – Small numbers in the grasslands of Nakuru and Masai Mara.

GRAY-CAPPED WARBLER (*Eminia lepida*) – Small numbers in the highlands; in all we saw about 10.

BLACK-FACED RUFOUS-WARBLER (*Bathmocercus rufus*) – After some effort we all had good looks in the Kakamega undergrowth.

BUFF-BELLIED WARBLER (*Phyllolais pulchella*) – Two at the bottom of Kongelai Escarpment, and 2 at Lukenya.

TAWNY-FLANKED PRINIA (*Prinia subflava*) – Small numbers in the west, in Masai Mara, and at the coast.

BANDED PRINIA (*Prinia bairdii*) – About 6 in the Kakamega Forest undergrowth.

YELLOW-VENTED EREMOMELA (*Eremomela flavicrissalis*) – One at Samburu.

TURNER'S EREMOMELA (*Eremomela turneri*) – We saw two small flocks of these globally threatened eremomelas in the canopy at Kakamega Forest.

Sylviidae (Old World Warblers)

BANDED WARBLER (*Parisoma boehmi*) – Two at Samburu, and 2 at Lukenya.

MOUSTACHED GRASS-WARBLER (*Melocichla mentalis*) – One in tall grassland about 50 kms. east of Kisumu.

NORTHERN CROMBEC (*Sylvietta brachyura*) – Three at Samburu, and 1 at Lake Baringo.

RED-FACED CROMBEC (*Sylvietta whytii*) – One at Kongelai.

GREEN HYLIA (*Hylia prasina*) – After some effort we finally all had good looks at 1 in Kakamega Forest.

Muscicapidae (Old World Flycatchers)

SILVERBIRD (*Empidonax minimus*) – Great looks at a pair at the bottom of Kongelai Escarpment.

PALE FLYCATCHER (*Bradornis pallidus*) – One in the Kerio Valley, and 2 at Nakuru.

AFRICAN GRAY FLYCATCHER (*Bradornis microrhynchus*) – Fairly common in the acacia woodland at Samburu and Baringo.

WHITE-EYED SLATY-FLYCATCHER (*Melaenornis fischeri*) – Very common in both the central and western highlands.

NORTHERN BLACK-FLYCATCHER (*Melaenornis edolioides*) – Pairs at Kitale, Kakamega, and in Masai Mara.

SOUTHERN BLACK-FLYCATCHER (*Melaenornis pammelaina*) – One at Thika, and 2 at Samburu.

SWAMP FLYCATCHER (*Muscicapa aquatica*) – About a dozen along the shores of Lake Victoria.

AFRICAN DUSKY FLYCATCHER (*Muscicapa adusta*) – Small numbers were widespread in both the central and western highlands.

ASHY FLYCATCHER (*Muscicapa caerulescens*) – Pairs in the Taita Hills and Sokoke Forest.

GRAY TIT-FLYCATCHER (*Myioparus plumbeus*) – One at Kongelai.

WHITE-STARRED ROBIN (*Pogonochla stellata*) – Two singles at Mt. Kenya, and a pair in the Taita Hills.

EQUATORIAL AKALAT (*Sheppardia aequatorialis*) – Great looks at Kakamega - right in the open too!

CAPE ROBIN-CHAT (*Cossypha caffra*) – One in Nairobi, 4 around Mt. Kenya, and other singles at Nakuru and in the Taita Hills.

BLUE-SHOULDERED ROBIN-CHAT (*Cossypha cyanocamptor*) – Heard several times in the dense undergrowth at Kakamega and then great looks at a single bird for most of the group.

GRAY-WINGED ROBIN-CHAT (*Cossypha polioptera*) – Fantastic looks at this normally shy bird at Saiwa Swamp (and for some at Kakamega).

RUEPPELL'S ROBIN-CHAT (*Cossypha semirufa*) – Four at Mountain Lodge.

WHITE-BROWED ROBIN-CHAT (*Cossypha heuglini*) – The most widespread robin-chat (particularly in the highlands); in all we saw about 15.

RED-CAPPED ROBIN-CHAT (*Cossypha natalensis*) – Nice looks at 1 at the edge of Sokoke Forest.

SNOWY-CROWNED ROBIN-CHAT (*Cossypha niveicapilla*) – Three singles at Saiwa Swamp and Kakamega.

SPOTTED MORNING-THRUSH (*Cichladusa guttata*) – Fairly common at Samburu, Baringo, and in Tsavo East.

BEARDED SCRUB-ROBIN (*Cercotrichas quadrivirgata*) – A very responsive bird zipped by us several times in Sokoke Forest but we never got more than just fly-by views.

BROWN-BACKED SCRUB-ROBIN (*Cercotrichas hartlaubi*) – One to the west of Mt. Kenya.

RED-BACKED SCRUB-ROBIN (*Cercotrichas leucophrys*) – Two at Baringo and 1 near the coast.

NORTHERN WHEATEAR (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) – Early singles were seen at Samburu, Solio, Naivasha, and in Tsavo East.

MOURNING WHEATEAR (*Oenanthe lugens lugubris*) – A rather confusing situation here with the birds we saw at Hell's Gate Gorge (20+) being lumped with Mourning Wheatear *O. lugubris*. Most African authorities now prefer to split this distinctive taxa as Schalow's Wheatear *O. schalowi*.

CAPPED WHEATEAR (*Oenanthe pileata*) – One on the South Kinangop grasslands.

STONECHAT (*Saxicola torquatus*) – Three at Mt. Kenya, and about 6 at South Kinangop; more usually split as African Stonechat.

FAMILIAR CHAT (*Cercomela familiaris*) – Two on the Oloololo Escarpment, Masai Mara.

BROWN-TAILED CHAT (*Cercomela scotocerca*) – Six along the cliffs at Lake Baringo.

NORTHERN ANTEATER-CHAT (*Myrmecocichla aethiops*) – Six at Solio GR, and 2 near Kitale,

SOOTY CHAT (*Myrmecocichla nigra*) – About 20 in Masai Mara.

MOCKING CLIFF-CHAT (*Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris*) – We saw a pair of these attractive chats along the Baringo cliffs, at our Nakuru Lodge, and at Hell's Gate.

Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies)

RED-TAILED ANT-THRUSH (*Neocossyphus rufus*) – Five in Sokoke Forest.

WHITE-TAILED ANT-THRUSH (*Neocossyphus poensis*) – Can be very shy, so we were lucky to see 1 in Kakamega Forest.

LITTLE ROCK-THRUSH (*Monticola rufocinereus*) – Two of the group saw 1 at Gatarakwa, and then we all saw 2 well at Lake Nakuru.

ABYSSINIAN GROUND-THRUSH (*Zoothera piaggiae*) – Great looks at this normally shy thrush at 10,000 ft. on Mt. Kenya.

OLIVE THRUSH (*Turdus olivaceus helleri*) – Often split as Taita Thrush we had excellent looks at this critically endangered bird in the Taita Hills.

OLIVE THRUSH (*Turdus olivaceus abyssinicus*) – Common in the central highlands.

AFRICAN THRUSH (*Turdus pelios*) – About 10 in the western highlands.

Timaliidae (Babblers)

SCALY-BREASTED ILLADOPSIS (*Illadopsis albipectus*) – Good looks at this super-skulker in Kakamega Forest.

MOUNTAIN ILLADOPSIS (*Illadopsis pyrrhoptera*) – We saw an almost tame individual at Saiwa Swamp.

AFRICAN HILL BABBLER (*Pseudoalcippe abyssinica*) – Three near Mountain Lodge.

RUFOUS CHATTERER (*Turdoides rubiginosa*) – Small numbers at Samburu, Baringo, and Kongelai.

BLACK-LORED BABBLER (*Turdoides sharpei*) – Three at Kisumu.

SCALY BABBLER (*Turdoides squamulata*) – Normally very shy so we were lucky to get such good views at Mida Creek.

NORTHERN PIED-BABBLER (*Turdoides hypoleuca*) – Eight in Nairobi NP.

BROWN BABBLER (*Turdoides plebejus*) – Five at Kongelai Escarpment, and 4 at Kisumu.

Zosteropidae (White-eyes)

AFRICAN YELLOW WHITE-EYE (*Zosterops senegalensis*) – One at Kitale, about 20 at Kakamega, and 6 at Mungatsi.

BROAD-RINGED WHITE-EYE (*Zosterops poliogastrus*) – Very common on Mt. Kenya; in all we saw about 100.

BROAD-RINGED WHITE-EYE (*Zosterops poliogastrus silvanus*) – Usually split at Taita White-eye (with a huge white eye-ring and grey-belly) we saw about 40 in the Taita Hills.

WHITE-BREASTED WHITE-EYE (*Zosterops abyssinicus*) – Ten on the lower slopes of the Taita Hills.

Sturnidae (Starlings)

WATTLED STARLING (*Creatophora cinerea*) – About a dozen in Nairobi NP, and 10 at Samburu.

GREATER BLUE-EARED GLOSSY-STARLING (*Lamprotornis chalybaeus*) – Fairly common in both the central and western highlands.

LESSER BLUE-EARED GLOSSY-STARLING (*Lamprotornis chloropterus*) – Three at Kongelai Escarpment.

RUEPPELL'S GLOSSY-STARLING (*Lamprotornis purpuroptera*) – Widespread in a variety of both dry and wetter woodlands throughout the tour.

GOLDEN-BREASTED STARLING (*Lamprotornis regius*) – Nice looks at 1 at Samburu, and then about 30 in Tsavo East - just gorgeous!

BLACK-BELLIED GLOSSY-STARLING (*Lamprotornis corruscus*) – About 20 at the coast.

SUPERB STARLING (*Lamprotornis superbus*) – Very common and widespread.

HILDEBRANDT'S STARLING (*Lamprotornis hildebrandti*) – Three near Voi town.

VIOLET-BACKED STARLING (*Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*) – Widespread in small numbers.

FISCHER'S STARLING (*Spreo fischeri*) – About 20 at Samburu, and 50+ in Tsavo East.

RED-WINGED STARLING (*Onychognathus morio*) – Small numbers at Baringo, Kongelai, and around Voi.

WALLER'S STARLING (*Onychognathus walleri*) – One at Mountain Lodge.

BRISTLE-CROWNED STARLING (*Onychognathus salvadorii*) – One of the group saw 2 at Samburu and then we all had good looks at about 20 along the cliffs at Baringo.

STUHLMANN'S STARLING (*Poeyptera stuhlmanni*) – Common at Kakamega.

Buphagidae (Oxpeckers)

RED-BILLED OXPECKER (*Buphagus erythrorhynchus*) – Common in areas with big game (and also occasionally with cattle); in all we saw about 350.

YELLOW-BILLED OXPECKER (*Buphagus africanus*) – About 12 in Masai Mara.

Nectariniidae (Sunbirds and Spiderhunters)

PLAIN-BACKED SUNBIRD (*Anthreptes reichenowi*) – Good looks at a single male in Sokoke Forest; this species is now globally threatened.

KENYA VIOLET-BACKED SUNBIRD (*Anthreptes orientalis*) – Twenty at Samburu, and 12 at Lake Baringo.

GREEN SUNBIRD (*Anthreptes rectirostris*) – Two at Kakamega.

COLLARED SUNBIRD (*Hedydipna collaris*) – Small numbers were widespread at forest edges throughout the tour.

AMANI SUNBIRD (*Hedydipna pallidigaster*) – Great looks at a pair in Sokoke Forest - another globally threatened species found there.

GREEN-HEADED SUNBIRD (*Cyanomitra verticalis*) – Three at Thika, and about 6 at Kakamega.

EASTERN OLIVE SUNBIRD (*Cyanomitra olivacea*) – Four in the Sokoke Forest area.

WESTERN OLIVE SUNBIRD (*Cyanomitra obscura*) – One at Kakamega.

MOUSE-COLORED SUNBIRD (*Cyanomitra veroxii*) – A bird singing in the car park during our last morning at Watamu was only seen briefly as it took flight.

GREEN-THROATED SUNBIRD (*Chalcomitra rubescens*) – Several in a flowering bottle-brush tree at Kakamega.

AMETHYST SUNBIRD (*Chalcomitra amethystina*) – Four between Thika and Mt. Kenya, and 1 in Tsavo East.

SCARLET-CHESTED SUNBIRD (*Chalcomitra senegalensis*) – Widespread in small numbers away from very dry country.

HUNTER'S SUNBIRD (*Chalcomitra hunteri*) – A total of about 40 were seen at Samburu, Baringo, and in Tsavo East - prefers much drier country than the previous species.

TACAZZE SUNBIRD (*Nectarinia tacaze*) – About 40 up Mt. Kenya.

BRONZE SUNBIRD (*Nectarinia kilimensis*) – Common in the central and western highlands.

GOLDEN-WINGED SUNBIRD (*Drepanorhynchus reichenowi*) – We saw a female at Mountain Lodge, and then 4 (including 2 males) at Limuru Pond.

OLIVE-BELLIED SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris chloropygius*) – About 8 at Mungatsi.

NORTHERN DOUBLE-COLLARED SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris reichenowi*) – Small numbers at Mt. Kenya, the Tugen Hills, and Kakamega.

EASTERN DOUBLE-COLLARED SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris mediocris*) – Normally at higher altitudes than the previous species; we saw about 20 at Mt. Kenya.

BEAUTIFUL SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris pulchellus*) – We saw these very beautiful sunbirds at Baringo and Kongelai.

MARIQUA SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris mariquensis*) – Ten at Samburu, and 20 at Kongelai.

RED-CHESTED SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris erythrocerus*) – About 40 in the Lake Victoria area.

BLACK-BELLIED SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris nectarinioides*) – Six in the grounds of our lodge at Samburu, and 6 more in Tsavo East.

PURPLE-BANDED SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris bifasciatus*) – Good looks at males at Kongelai and Mida Creek.

TSAVO SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris tsavoensis*) – About 6 in Tsavo East.

ORANGE-TUFTED SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris bouvieri*) – We saw about 6 of these uncommon sunbirds in the farmlands around Mungatsi.

VARIABLE SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris venustus*) – Widespread in small numbers.

COPPER SUNBIRD (*Cinnyris cupreus*) – About 30 in the Mungatsi area.

Motacillidae (Wagtails and Pipits)

CAPE WAGTAIL (*Motacilla capensis*) – Small numbers at Mt. Kenya, the Kitale area, and at Kericho.

MOUNTAIN WAGTAIL (*Motacilla clara*) – One along the Naro Moru River.

AFRICAN PIED WAGTAIL (*Motacilla aguimp*) – Common and widespread.

AFRICAN PIPIT (*Anthus cinnamomeus*) – We saw a total of about 20, with most in the grasslands of Masai Mara, Nakuru and at the coast.

LONG-BILLED PIPIT (*Anthus similis*) – Two on the north side of Mt. Kenya, and then pairs at Hell's Gate Gorge and in Masai Mara.

PLAIN-BACKED PIPIT (*Anthus leucophrys*) – About a dozen in Nakuru and Masai Mara.

STRIPED PIPIT (*Anthus lineiventris*) – We saw 3 of these very localised birds in the Taita Hills.

SOKOKE PIPIT (*Anthus sokokensis*) – Excellent views of this shy and very difficult pipit in Sokoke Forest - right on a branch at eye-level!

SHARPE'S LONGCLAW (*Hemimacronyx sharpei*) – Good looks at a male on the South Kinangop grasslands.

YELLOW-THROATED LONGCLAW (*Macronyx croceus*) – About 6 in Masai Mara and the coast.

ROSY-THROATED LONGCLAW (*Macronyx ameliae*) – We saw a single male in breeding plumage in Masai Mara.

Emberizidae (Buntings, Sparrows and Allies)

CINNAMON-BREASTED BUNTING (*Emberiza tahapisi*) – Two in Masai Mara.

GOLDEN-BREASTED BUNTING (*Emberiza flaviventris*) – Two in Masai Mara.

SOMALI BUNTING (*Emberiza poliopleura*) – Two singles at Samburu.

Fringillidae (Siskins, Crossbills, and Allies)

YELLOW-CROWNED CANARY (*Serinus flavivertex*) – About 20 at Mt. Kenya.

YELLOW-FRONTED CANARY (*Serinus mozambicus*) – Forty at Masai Mara and 10 at the coast.

AFRICAN CITRIL (*Serinus citrinelloides kikuyensis*) – Two at Mt. Kenya.

SOUTHERN CITRIL (*Serinus hypostictus*) – One at Kakamega.

REICHENOW'S SEEDEATER (*Serinus reichenowi*) – Five in the Kerio Valley, 2 at Kongelai, and about a dozen in Tsavo.

WHITE-BELLIED CANARY (*Serinus dorsostriatus*) – Small numbers at Samburu, Baringo, and Kisumu.

BRIMSTONE CANARY (*Serinus sulphuratus*) – About 8 at Solio GR, and 2 at Hell's Gate Gorge.

STREAKY SEEDEATER (*Serinus striolatus*) – Common in the Nairobi and Mt. Kenya areas.

THICK-BILLED SEEDEATER (*Serinus burtoni*) – Four at Mt. Kenya.

Passeridae (Old World Sparrows)

HOUSE SPARROW (*Passer domesticus*) – Widespread throughout the tour - especially around gas stations.

KENYA RUFOUS SPARROW (*Passer rufocinctus*) – Fairly common in high country with acacia trees.

GRAY-HEADED SPARROW (*Passer griseus*) – Two in the Kerio Valley, and about 20 in the western highlands.

PARROT-BILLED SPARROW (*Passer gongonensis*) – Really common at Samburu (perhaps 300) and then smaller numbers at Baringo and in Tsavo East.

CHESTNUT SPARROW (*Passer eminibey*) – About 50 at Samburu. 6 at Hell's Gate, and 20 at Lukenya.

YELLOW-SPOTTED PETRONIA (*Petronia pyrgita*) – Six at Samburu, and 6 at Baringo.

Ploceidae (Weavers and Allies)

WHITE-BILLED BUFFALO-WEAVER (*Bubalornis albirostris*) – About 60 were nesting in the grounds of our lodge at Lake Baringo.

RED-BILLED BUFFALO-WEAVER (*Bubalornis niger*) – Twenty at Samburu, and at least 1000 in Tsavo East.

WHITE-HEADED BUFFALO-WEAVER (*Dinemellia dinemelli*) – Common in dry bush country like Samburu, Baringo and Kongelai.

SPECKLE-FRONTED WEAVER (*Sporopipes frontalis*) – Two at Samburu, and 2 at Lukenya.

WHITE-BROWED SPARROW-WEAVER (*Plocepasser mahali*) – Very common and widespread in acacia country.

CHESTNUT-CROWNED SPARROW-WEAVER (*Plocepasser superciliosus*) – Nice looks at 1 in the Kerio Valley.

DONALDSON-SMITH'S SPARROW-WEAVER (*Plocepasser donaldsoni*) – This localised species was common at Samburu.

GRAY-HEADED SOCIAL-WEAVER (*Pseudonigrita arnaudi*) – About 40 at Lukenya.

BLACK-CAPPED SOCIAL-WEAVER (*Pseudonigrita cabanisi*) – About 60 at Samburu.

RED-HEADED WEAVER (*Anaplectes rubriceps*) – Small numbers at Naro Moru and Kongelai.

BAGLAFECHE WEAVER (*Ploceus baglafecht*) – Very common the highlands.

LITTLE WEAVER (*Ploceus luteolus*) – Eight at Baringo, and 2 at Kongelai.

SLENDER-BILLED WEAVER (*Ploceus pelzelni*) – About 8 along the shores of Lake Victoria.

BLACK-NECKED WEAVER (*Ploceus nigricollis*) – One at the gate to Tsavo East, and about 4 in the Taita Hills.

SPECTACLED WEAVER (*Ploceus ocularis*) – Three at Mungatsi, and 2 at Naivasha.

BLACK-BILLED WEAVER (*Ploceus melanogaster*) – Two in the Tugen Hills, and 3 at Kakamega.

AFRICAN GOLDEN-WEAVER (*Ploceus subaureus*) – About 10 at Hunter's Lodge.

HOLUB'S GOLDEN-WEAVER (*Ploceus xanthops*) – One at Sagana, 4 at Saiwa Swamp, and 2 at Limuru Pond.

GOLDEN PALM WEAVER (*Ploceus bojeri*) – We saw a couple of glowing males at Samburu and Watamu.

NORTHERN BROWN-THROATED WEAVER (*Ploceus castanops*) – We saw about 20 of these localised birds along the shores of Lake Victoria.

NORTHERN MASKED-WEAVER (*Ploceus taeniopterus*) – This extremely localised weaver was quite common along

the shores of Lake Baringo - the only site in Kenya.

LESSER MASKED-WEAVER (*Ploceus intermedius*) – About a dozen at Masai Mara and in Tsavo.

VITELLINE MASKED-WEAVER (*Ploceus vitellinus*) – Singles at Baringo and Kongelai.

HEUGLIN'S MASKED-WEAVER (*Ploceus heuglini*) – Eight males were present at the only known colony in Kenya - near Kongelai.

SPEKE'S WEAVER (*Ploceus spekei*) – Common in the central highlands.

VIEILLOT'S WEAVER (*Ploceus nigerrimus*) – Four males at Kakamega Forest.

VILLAGE WEAVER (*Ploceus cucullatus*) – Fairly common and widespread.

BLACK-HEADED WEAVER (*Ploceus melanocephalus*) – About 200 around the shores of Lake Victoria.

GOLDEN-BACKED WEAVER (*Ploceus jacksoni*) – We saw about 10 of these very attractive weavers at Lake Baringo.

CHESTNUT WEAVER (*Ploceus rubiginosus*) – About 100 (in non-breeding plumage) on the north side of Mt. Kenya.

FOREST WEAVER (*Ploceus bicolor*) – Six at Kakamega Forest, and about 10 at Sokoke.

BROWN-CAPPED WEAVER (*Ploceus insignis*) – Three in the Tugen Hills, and about 12 at Kakamega Forest.

RED-BILLED QUELEA (*Quelea quelea*) – Six at Samburu, and perhaps 10,000 in Tsavo East.

ORANGE BISHOP (*Euplectes franciscanus*) – We saw a gorgeous male in full breeding plumage at Lake Baringo.

RED BISHOP (*Euplectes orix*) – We saw a male in reasonably good plumage at the Ahero rice fields.

ZANZIBAR BISHOP (*Euplectes nigroventris*) – Four at Malindi airport.

BLACK-WINGED BISHOP (*Euplectes hordeaceus*) – A male (in fabulous plumage) at Kongelai was the only one.

BLACK BISHOP (*Euplectes gierowii*) – Three near Mumais.

YELLOW BISHOP (*Euplectes capensis*) – Three near Saiwa Swamp.

WHITE-WINGED WIDOWBIRD (*Euplectes albonotatus*) – About 60 in the Sagana rice fields.

YELLOW-SHOULDERED WIDOWBIRD (*Euplectes macroura macrocerca*) – We saw a male of the yellow-shouldered form in the clearing at Kakamega Forest.

RED-COLLARED WIDOWBIRD (*Euplectes ardens*) – Four at Mt. Kenya, and 2 near Saiwa Swamp.

FAN-TAILED WIDOWBIRD (*Euplectes axillaris*) – About 20 in the Kitale area.

GROSBEAK WEAVER (*Amblyospiza albifrons*) – About 60 at Kerenget Dam and Saiwa Swamp.

Estrildidae (Waxbills and Allies)

GRAY-HEADED NEGROFINCH (*Nigrita canicapillus*) – Two at Mountain Lodge, and about 12 at Kakamega Forest.

WHITE-BREASTED NEGROFINCH (*Nigrita fusconotus*) – Good looks at 3 low feeding birds at the edge of Kakamega Forest.

YELLOW-BELLIED WAXBILL (*Coccyzygia quartinia*) – Twelve high on Mt. Kenya, and then 3 at Limuru Pond.

GREEN-BACKED TWINSPOUT (*Mandingoa nitidula*) – Half of the group saw 1 in the Taita Hills.

COMMON WAXBILL (*Estrilda astrild*) – Small numbers in the western highlands and at Masai Mara.

BLACK-CROWNED WAXBILL (*Estrilda nonnula*) – Three near Saiwa Swamp, and then 2 near Kisumu.

KANDT'S WAXBILL (*Estrilda kandti*) – About a dozen above 10,000 feet on Mt. Kenya.

RED-RUMPED WAXBILL (*Estrilda charmosyna*) – Twenty around our lodge in Samburu.

RED-HEADED BLUEBILL (*Spermophaga ruficapilla*) – Nice looks along the roads in Kakamega Forest.

RED-CHEEKED CORDONBLEU (*Uraeginthus bengalus*) – Common and widespread away from forest.

BLUE-CAPPED CORDONBLEU (*Uraeginthus cyanocephalus*) – Two in Tsavo East.

PURPLE GRENADIER (*Granatina ianthinogaster*) – Two at Samburu, and 2 in Masai Mara.

PETERS'S TWINSPOUT (*Hypargos niveoguttatus*) – Great looks at this normally shy bird - right along the tracks in Sokoke Forest.

GREEN-WINGED PYTILIA (*Pytilia melba*) – We saw 4 of these beautiful waxbills in Tsavo East.

RED-BILLED FIREFINCH (*Lagonosticta senegala*) – Widespread in small numbers.

BAR-BREASTED FIREFINCH (*Lagonosticta rufopicta*) – Two near Mungatsi.

CUT-THROAT (*Amadina fasciata*) – A single flock of about 50 at Aruba Dam was an exceptional number.

ZEBRA WAXBILL (*Sporaeeginthus subflavus*) – About 20 in Nairobi NP.

BRONZE MANNIKIN (*Spermestes cucullatus*) – Widespread in small numbers throughout the tour.

BLACK-AND-WHITE MANNIKIN (RED-BACKED) (*Spermestes bicolor nigriceps*) – About 10 in the Taita Hills.

Viduidae (Indigobirds)

PIN-TAILED WHYDAH (*Vidua macroura*) – Two males in half breeding plumage in Masai Mara, and then about 40 others (all in non-breeding plumage) at Tsavo and the coast.

STRAW-TAILED WHYDAH (*Vidua fischeri*) – We saw a male in full breeding plumage at Kongelai, and then about 6 non-breeding birds in Tsavo. [a]

VILLAGE INDIGOBIRD (*Vidua chalybeata*) – We saw a single breeding male in the Ahero rice fields.

MAMMALS

YELLOW-WINGED BAT (*Lavia frons*) – One in the Kerio Valley.

BLUE MONKEY (*Cercopithecus mitis*) – Common at Kakamega where we saw about 60, and then a further 20 in Masai Mara.

SYKES MONKEY (*Cercopithecus albogularis*) – About 45 at Mt. Kenya, and then 10 at the coast.

BLACK-CHEEKED WHITE-NOSED MONKEY (*Cercopithecus ascanius*) – More commonly known as Copper-tailed Monkey, we saw about 20 at Kakamega Forest and 12 in Masai Mara.

BLACK-FACED VERVET MONKEY (*Cercopithecus aethiops*) – Common and widespread.

OLIVE BABOON (*Papio anubis*) – Common and widespread away from Tsavo and the coast.

YELLOW BABOON (*Papio cyanocephalus*) – Replaces the previous species in Tsavo and the coast; in all we saw about 120.

MANTLED GUEREZA (*Colobus guereza*) – More commonly known as Eastern Black-and-white Colobus; we saw them at Mt. Kenya, Saiwa Swamp, and Kakamega.

CAPE HARE (*Lepus capensis*) – Two at Mountain Lodge, 1 at Baringo, and 1 at Nakuru.

UNSTRIPED GROUND SQUIRREL (*Xerus rutilus*) – Common at Samburu, a few at Baringo, and about 12 in Tsavo East.

STRIPED GROUND SQUIRREL (*Xerus erythropus*) – Two at Thika.

BUSH SQUIRREL (*Paraxerus* sp.) – The mountain form was common around Mountain Lodge, while the lowland form was at Kerio Valley, Kongelai, and near Voi.

RED-LEGGED SUN SQUIRREL (*Heliosciurus rufobrachium*) – One at Saiwa Swamp, and 5 at Kakamega.

ZANJ SUN SQUIRREL (*Heliosciurus undulatus*) – Also known as East Coast Sun Squirrel we saw 2 in Sokoke Forest.

SIDE-STRIPED JACKAL (*Canis adustus*) – Good looks at this often shy and partially nocturnal mammal in Masai Mara.

BLACK-BACKED JACKAL (*Canis mesomelas*) – One at Solio, 3 playful youngsters at Nakuru, and 1 at Masai Mara.

BAT-EARED FOX (*Otocyon megalotis*) – Two at Lake Nakuru.

CAPE CLAWLESS OTTER (*Aonyx capensis*) – Two of the group saw 1 in the Naro Moru River.

COMMON (SMALL-SPOTTED) GENET (*Genetta genetta*) – Two at Samburu.

LARGE-SPOTTED GENET (*Genetta tigrina*) – Three at Mountain Lodge.

SLENDER MONGOOSE (*Herpestes sanguineus*) – One at the gate to Tsavo West.

BANDED MONGOOSE (*Mungos mungo*) – Several large groups in Masai Mara and Tsavo East.

EASTERN DWARF MONGOOSE (*Helogale hirtula*) – About 15 at Samburu, and 20 in Tsavo East.

WHITE-TAILED MONGOOSE (*Ichneumia albicauda*) – Two at Samburu.

SPOTTED HYAENA (*Crocuta crocuta*) – Five at Lake Nakuru, and about 20 in Masai Mara.

LEOPARD (*Panthera pardus*) – We all saw a very large male from the roof of Mountain Lodge - a great mammal to get so early on the tour. And then, unbelievably we watched a mating pair for about half an hour in Masai Mara - one of our best leopard tours ever!

LION (*Panthera leo*) – Four in Nairobi NP were quite a surprise, we then had 3 in Samburu, about 20 in Masai Mara, and 1 in Tsavo East.

CHEETAH (*Acinonyx jubatus*) – Great looks at a well fed male in Samburu, and then a female with 3 youngsters in Masai Mara.

AFRICAN ELEPHANT (*Loxodonta africana*) – Good looks at some small close feeding herds in Samburu, and then about 100 in Masai Mara, and 300 in Tsavo East.

ROCK HYRAX (*Procavia capensis*) – Six at Baringo, and 6 at Hell's Gate Gorge.

BUSH (YELLOW-SPOTTED) HYRAX (*Heterohyrax brucei*) – Very common around Voi Safari Lodge.

TREE HYRAX (*Dendrohyrax arboreus*) – Singles were seen by some of the group at Naro Moru and Kichwa Tembo.

GREVY'S ZEBRA (*Equus grevyi*) – With a world population of less than 3000 we were lucky to see about 50 at Samburu.

BURCHELL'S ZEBRA (*Equus burchelli*) – Common and widespread in more grassy areas than the previous species, like Nairobi, Solio and Masai Mara.

BLACK RHINOCEROS (*Diceros bicornis*) – Great close looks at 1 at Solio, and then a second single at Lake Nakuru.

WHITE RHINOCEROS (*Ceratotherium simum*) – We saw this introduced species at Solio and Lake Nakuru.

WARTHOG (*Phacochoerus aethiopicus*) – Common and widespread; in all we saw about 350.

HIPPOPOTAMUS (*Hippopotamus amphibius*) – Two at Lake Baringo, 1 at Kisumu. 1 at Naivasha, and about 60 in Masai Mara.

COMMON GIRAFFE (*Giraffa camelopardalis*) – Six in Nairobi NP, and then 4 at Naivasha, 80 in Masai Mara, and 30 in Tsavo.

RETICULATED GIRAFFE (*Giraffa reticulata*) – About 30 at Samburu.

ROTHSCHILD'S GIRAFFE (*Giraffa rothschildi*) – Six at Lake Nakuru.

SITATUNGA (*Tragelaphus spekei*) – One at Saiwa Swamp.

BUSHBUCK (*Tragelaphus scriptus*) – Twenty at Mt. Kenya, and 2 in Masai Mara.

LESSER KUDU (*Tragelaphus imberbis*) – Nice looks at 9 in Tsavo East.

COMMON ELAND (*Taurotragus oryx*) – Great looks at this normally skitish antelope in Nairobi NP, and then at Nakuru, Masai Mara, and at Tsavo - a great trip for seeing these massive antelopes.

AFRICAN BUFFALO (*Syncerus caffer*) – Common and widespread in a variety of both open grasslands and wooded country; in all we saw about 3000.

BUSH (GRAY) DUIKER (*Sylvicapra grimmia*) – One on the Oloololo Escarpment, Masai Mara.

COMMON WATERBUCK (*Kobus ellipsiprymnus*) – About 20 at Samburu, and 60 in Tsavo East.

DEFASSA WATERBUCK (*Kobus defassa*) – Three at Mountain Lodge, 20 at Nakuru, and 100 in Masai Mara.

BOHOR REEDBUCK (*Redunca redunca*) – Six in Masai Mara.

BEISA ORYX (*Oryx beisa*) – Fifty at Samburu, and about 100 at Solio.

FRINGE-EARED ORYX (*Oryx callotis*) – About 50 were feeding on the dried up lake bed at Aruba Dam.

TOPI (*Damaliscus lunatus*) – About 350 in Masai Mara.

HARTEBEEST (KONGONI) (*Alcelaphus buselaphus*) – Also known as Coke's Hartebeest; we saw about 40 in Nairobi NP, and 80 in Tsavo East.

BLUE WILDEBEEST (*Connochaetes taurinus*) – One at Naivasha, and then about 2000 rather distantly in Masai Mara.

STEENBOK (*Raphicerus campestris*) – Two (with a Thomson's Gazelle) in Solio GR.

SUNI (*Neotragus moschatus*) – Some of the group saw 1 at Mountain Lodge.

KIRK'S DIK-DIK (*Modoqua kirki*) – Very common at Samburu, Nakuru, and in Tsavo East.

IMPALA (*Aepyceros malampus*) – Common and widespread in a variety of open woodland and bush country.

GERENUK (*Litocranius walleri*) – Great looks at about 20 at Samburu, and 12 in Tsavo East.

THOMSON'S GAZELLE (*Gazella thomsoni*) – First seen at Solio, and then about 200 at Nakuru, 50 at Hell's Gate Gorge, and 2000+ in Masai Mara.

GRANT'S GAZELLE (*Gazella granti*) – Common in drier areas than the previous species; in all we saw about 450.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

The additional reptiles were also recorded on the tour;

Tropical House Gecko, several at Samburu and Baringo.

Red-headed Rock Agama, about 6 at Samburu, and 4 at Voi.

Elementaita Rock Agama, 1 at Gatarakwa.

Green Tree Agama, 1 at Mungatsi.

Water Monitor, 2 at Lake Baringo.

Nile Crocodile, 3 at Lake Baringo, and 4 in Masai Mara.

Green Mamba, 1 high in the canopy in Kakamega Forest.

Totals for the tour: 612 bird taxa and 62 mammal taxa